# Mountain Weather Forecast

## Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 until 23:59 on Wednesday 09 Dec 2020

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 at 01:21

**Confidence:** High confidence for an unsettled week with bands of rain, Wednesday looks like the best day in the 5 day outlook.

**Headline for Tuesday 08 Dec 2020:** A wet and dull day with strong southwesterly winds and poor visibility around the Lake District.

**Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 08 Dec 2020**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Blizzards**<br>No Likelihood | **Heavy Snow**<br>No Likelihood | **Storm force winds**<br>No Likelihood |
| **Gales**<br>No Likelihood | **Severe chill effect**<br>Low Likelihood | **Poor visibility**<br>Medium Likelihood |
| **Thunderstorms**<br>No Likelihood | **Heavy persistent rain**<br>No Likelihood | **Strong sunlight**<br>No Likelihood |

| **Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m** | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Time | | | | | |
| 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 |
| | | | | | |
| Sleet | Sleet | Sleet | Sleet | Sleet | Light snow |
| Precipitation probability | | | | | |
| 50% | 70% | 70% | 70% | 40% | 30% |

**Forecast for Tuesday 08 Dec 2020**

**Weather:** Outbreaks of rain across the Lake District, snow above 700m at first but rising to 800-900m. Rain will be more persistent for a time in the morning becoming lighter and more showery in the afternoon. Some patchy rain will linger on into Tuesday evening.

**Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m:** 10%, extensive low cloud above 400-700m for much of the day.

**Visibility:** Moderate or poor for most of the day, in any wintery weather it will be very poor.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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# Mountain Weather Forecast

**Forecast for Tuesday 08 Dec 2020**

| Height (m) | Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from) | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 | 00:00 |
| **900** | 30/36 W | 22/27 W | 18/22 W | 20/24 NW | 24/29 NW | 24/30 NW | 22/28 NW |
| **600** | 25/35 W | 18/25 W | 15/23 W | 17/24 NW | 19/26 NW | 18/26 NW | 17/25 NW |
| **300** | 8/28 W | 7/23 W | 6/19 W | 7/20 NW | 8/21 NW | 8/22 NW | 8/22 NW |
| **Valley** | 8/24 W | 9/22 W | 7/18 NW | 7/19 NW | 7/20 NW | 8/21 NW | 8/20 W |

| Height (m) | Temperature / Feels Like (°C) | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 | 00:00 |
| **900** | -0/-9 | 0/-7 | 0/-6 | 0/-6 | 0/-7 | 0/-6 | 0/-6 |
| **600** | 2/-5 | 2/-4 | 2/-3 | 2/-3 | 2/-4 | 2/-3 | 2/-3 |
| **300** | 3/-0 | 3/1 | 4/1 | 4/1 | 4/1 | 4/1 | 4/1 |
| **Valley** | 6/3 | 6/3 | 6/4 | 6/4 | 6/4 | 6/4 | 6/4 |
| **Freezing Level*** | 900m | 1000m | 1000m | 1000m | 1000m | 1000m | 1000m |

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

**Meteorologist's View**

As freezing level rises on Tuesday there will be some snowmelt from 7-900m in addition to the rainfall which may cause watercourses to swell. Feeling cold on the fells in strong northwesterly winds.

**Forecast for Wednesday 09 Dec 2020**

**Weather:** A mainly dry and bright day, perhaps some early mist and fog in prone spots and an early frost is likely. There may be the odd shower.

**Maximum wind:** Northwesterly backing southerly 10-15mph

**Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m:** 90% chance of cloud free tops, perhaps some low cloud shrouding the tops around dawn.

**Visibility:** Good or very good.

**Temperature:** **Valleys:** Plus 5 Celsius.
**At 800m:** Plus 2 Celsius
**Freezing level:** 900m

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# Mountain Weather Forecast

**Ground Conditions Supplement**
Monday 7 December 2020. Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:40. Full report: The following report comes with a health warning in that snow is expected at altitude (initially at 400m) overnight and early on Tuesday so walkers out on Tuesday should expect to encounter different conditions experienced and described on Monday. The main snow line commences between 600 to 650m with patches of snow from 400m. Depth rises with altitude with a general covering of around 4cm at 900m; however the actual depth encountered varies with drifts in hollows and sheltered aspects deep enough to swallow a 70cm ice axe although such depth is the exception. Where undisturbed, the snow pack's composition is soft, sometimes with a crust making for relatively easy going where it is not deep. However, on popular routes the snow has been compacted making conditions treacherous, especially in descent. Ice axe and crampons or micro spikes depending upon the snow's depth and steepness of the slope will be useful here. On Tuesday, such icy paths may be covered by a layer of fresh snow adding to difficulties. Some windslab (unstable layer of snow) was present on steep slopes, mainly N and E facing, although not exclusively so. Exposed routes above the snowline, such as Striding and Swirral Edges are in mixed winter condition with a mainly thin layer of compacted snow and ice along Striding's crest and a slightly thicker one along Swirral's. It is strongly recommended that such routes are only attempted by those experienced in, and equipped for, winter mountaineering including crampons and especially an ice axe. People were today successfully negotiating the edges without such equipment but a simple slip could be extremely serious; the other point to note is that it was far easier climbing the exits to the ridges without crampons than it was to descend them; another reason why it is critical why such equipment must be carried. Many experienced walkers read these reports, so please pass on your wisdom to fellow walkers heading for exposed routes above the snowline without being properly equipped – they will thank you for it! Full winter clothing (waterproofs, warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment are all essential for anyone venturing out onto the fells. This is not just for safety, but also for enjoyment as the magnificent summit panorama today with awesome cloud inversion and memorable Brocken Spectres made it a place to linger and savour – which you certainly would not be able to do without a few extra warm layers! Temperature: minus 2.1 C, Maximum wind speed 16.3 mph, Wind chill: minus 9.1 C, Average wind speed: 11.9 mph
Issued at: 01:21 on Tue 08 Dec 2020


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